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Docket No.: LUD 5539.1 CIP
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Kohei Miyazono

Application No.: 09/267,963

Group Art Unit: 1647

Filed: March 12, 1999

Examiner: David S. Romeo

For: PROTEINS HAVING SERINE/THREONINE
KINASE DOMAINS, CORRESPONDING
NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES, AND THEIR
USE

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RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action dated February 25, 2002 wherein the claims were divided into five groups.


Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group II, i.e. claims 43-52, with traverse.

In the interest of expeditious compact prosecution, applicants respectfully request that the claims of Groups I, II and III be examined concurrently in this application. These three groups of claims all relate to the interaction TGF β and ALK-1 and all three groups of claims are classified in the same class and subclass, i.e., class 435, subclass 7.1. Therefore a search for art relating to one group of claims would extensively overlap with a search for art relating to the other groups. As such there would be minimum burden on the Examiner to search and examine these three groups concurrently.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any missing or insufficient fees related to the filing of this document from Deposit Account No. 06-2375.

Dated: March 7, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

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